



SOCIAL SECURITY



HELP WITH YOUR PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage - Medicare is offering new, voluntary prescription drug coverage that started on January 1, 2006. **To get this prescription drug coverage, you must join a Medicare plan.** If you have limited income and resources, you may be able to get extra help paying for this if:

- Your average monthly income is less than \$1,245 and you live alone or if you live only with your spouse and your total monthly income is less than \$1,670. Your income could be higher if you live in Alaska or Hawaii, support other family members who live with you or have earnings from work, and
- You have resources (such as money in a bank, stocks or bonds) worth \$10,000 or less (\$20,000 or less if you are married and living with your spouse). The resource limits can be slightly higher (an additional \$1,500 per person) if you will use some of your money for burial expenses.

If you think you may qualify you should fill out an **Application for Help with Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Costs** right away. If you have sent it in already, you may hear soon if you qualify for the extra help.

For more information about getting extra help with your prescription drug costs or if you want to apply for the extra help, call Social Security at **1-800-772-1213** (TTY users should call **1-800-325-0778**) or visit www.socialsecurity.gov. You also can apply at your State medical assistance office.

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